

MEDIA RELEASE

Sex Offender Arrested for Kidnapping & Rape

SANTA BARBARA, CA – June 11, 2012

On June 6, 2012, at 5:23 p.m., SBPD Officer Tom Eccles investigated a report of a kidnapping and rape that had occurred earlier in the day. His investigation indicated the following. The suspect, Jorge Luis Diaz, age 26, is a registered sex offender and the subject of a restraining order requiring that he have no contact with the victim in this case. The victim is a 22-year old female acquaintance of Diaz. At approximately 8:20 that morning, in the City of Santa Barbara, the victim was confronted by Diaz as she walked to her car to go to work. Diaz commandeered the victim's vehicle and drove her, against her will, to the Los Angeles area. There, he obtained a motel room where he raped her. Following the assault, Diaz drove the victim back to Santa Barbara and released her after she promised not to report the incident to the police.

Crimes against Persons Detective Bryan Jensen conducted follow-up investigation in this case. His investigation yielded additional evidence corroborating the victim's account of what had happened. On June 7, 2012, at 11:00 a.m., Diaz was arrested by detectives as he stood outside of his residence at 434 S. Canada Street. At the time of his arrest Diaz was in possession of a crack pipe. When interviewed about the crime Diaz stated that he and the victim had gone to Los Angeles together to go shopping and that their sexual activity was consensual.

Diaz was booked at the Santa Barbara County Jail for following felonies: kidnapping with the intent to commit rape, rape, and oral copulation. He was also booked on the misdemeanors of violation of a court order and possession of drug paraphernalia. His bail amount is \$1,000,000.00.



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